[*English*]

Pricing and Distribution of Raw Material by I.P.C.L

4790. SHRI ARVIND TULSHIRAM KAMBLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Petrochemicals Corporation Limited raised the price of its General Purpose grade LDPE from Rs. 21,300 to Rs. 44,000 per MT during March 1987 to July 1990;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether IPCL has imported enough material to meet its shortage in the country, if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the IPCL has implemented its distribution policy announced sometime back to give priority to its old customers and if not the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps proposed to be taken to protect the interest of thousands of small units engaged in the processing of General Purpose grade LDPE?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The gradual increase in price of LDPE from 1987 to July, 1991 was due to increase in input costs, increase in sales tax and also due to impact of recent fiscal policy changes and the incidence of gulf surcharge.

(c) to (e). As LDPE is under OGL (stock and sale), IPCL and the consuming industry both are importing the material. The total import of LDPE/LLDPE by IPCL and the industry during 1990-91 is estimated as 38,200 tonnes and 208,00 tonnes respectively. IPCL is distributing their products on the offtake pattern of their customers in the past, however, supply to these customers is sometimes revised to maintain supply to milk packaging, forestry and other priority requirements. In order to support the small scale sector, IPCL will import such quantity of material, as required by the distribution policy, subject to competitive price level in international market, availability of foreign exchange and availability of the product in the international market.

Deaths due to collapse of a wall in H.O.C.L.

4791. SHRI MOHAN VISHNU RAWLE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether seven women employees of the Hindustan Organic Chemicals Limited, Rasayani have died due to the collapse of a wall of sulphur godown during the first week of July, 1991;

(b) if so, whether the cause of wall collapse is storing more sulphur than the capacity of the godown;

(c) if so, the actual capacity of godown and the quantity of sulphur stored therein at the time of tragedy;

(d) if not, the facts thereof and whether the dead bodies of the women employees were cremated hurriedly without informing their family members; and

(e) if so, whether any action has been taken against the persons responsible for this tragedy and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS & FERTILIZERS (DR. CHINTA MOHAN): (a) 7 women workers engaged by a Civil Contractor died due to collapse of dyke wall of sulphur storage yard on 2nd July, 1991.

(b) No, Sir. As per the report of the Fact Finding Committee, the cause of wall collapse is the accidental impact on the wall by the excavator in the course of its operation or excess pressure on the wall developed by pushing of sulphur by the excavator.

(c) Actual quantity stored in the affected godown on the day of accident was 1650 MT against the storage capacity of 2882 MT.

(d) The dead bodies were cremated by the concerned family members of the deceased after post mortem.

(e) The Statutory authorities have initiated action under the provisions of the Indian Penal Code, Workmen's Compensation Act and Factories Act. Action against persons responsible will be taken by these authorities as and when the inquiries under the above laws are completed.

Conditions for Setting up of Sugar Factories

4792. PROF. RAM KAPSE:
SHRI RAM SINGH:

Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) the terms and conditions fixed for setting up of sugar factory in any area;

(b) whether the Government propose to make these terms and conditions liberal for setting up more sugar factories; and

(c) if so, when and the details of the terms and conditions proposed to be liberalised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c). The Central Government, vide Press Note dated 23.7.90, had announced the licensing policy guidelines for setting up of new sugar factories and expansion in the existing units. A copy of these guidelines as attached as statement. The aforesaid policy guidelines are presently being reviewed by Government.

STATEMENT

Press Note No. 4

(1990 Series)

Subject: Guidelines for licensing of new and expansion of existing sugar factories during the Eighth Five Year Plan.

In supersession of the guidelines for licensing of sugar factories as contained in this Ministry's Press Note No. 1 (1987 series) dated 2nd January, 1987, Press Note No. 2 (1987 series) dated 9th February, 1987, Press Note No. 12 (1989 series) dated 11th May, 1989 and Press Note No. 27 (1989 series) dated 19th October, 1989, the following guidelines have been formulated for licensing of new and expansion of existing sugar factories:

(i) New sugar factories will continue to be licensed for a minimum economic capacity of 2500 Tones cane crush per day (TCD). There would not be any maximum limit on such capacity. No relaxation of minimum economic capacity for backward areas or in the areas under-developed from the point of view of sugarcane availability will be permitted.

(ii) Licences for new sugar factories will be issued subject to the condition that there is no sugar mill within a radial distance of 15 Kms. The applicant does not have